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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
TAKESHI YAMAKAWA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: CHEN, H.
SERIAL NO: 10/643,993 :
FILED: AUGUST 20, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 4157
FOR: IMAGE FORMATION APPARATUS :

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

During the examination in the Japanese Patent Office for the corresponding Japanese application, a Japanese Examiner pointed out that reference JP 2-64959 relates to claim 5. The Examiner cites JP 2-64959 for the feature of the fixing member being fixed to an optical housing using a snap fastener. This feature relates to paragraphs 0040 to 0043 in the specification, and also corresponds to Figure 5. Reference 5 discloses in Figures 1-5 that lens 6 or 8 is fixed to housing 11 using snap-fit 6-1 or 8-1.